

SECRET

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
Washington, D.C.


Copy No. 6
Of 8 copies only

INTERNAL STRIFE IN CROATIA

During the third week in December 1944, Kasche, German Minister in Croatia, is said to have stated he had informed Field Marshal von Weichs and his Chief of Staff concerning instructions he had received. They both explained that the position of the Poglavnik was an extremely difficult one, and that they regarded it as their duty, in the interest of the common war effort, to help him. They declared that the Ustashi-Jasenovac Brigade has thus far given a good account of itself in carrying out military missions.

Later the same day Kasche stated that he had handed the Poglavnik a copy of the commentary sent him, after first having read it to him. The Poglavnik explained that as regarded the matter itself, what had been done was necessary. He stated he had received reports that the Chetniks were plundering villages in the Bihac region and he feared that further friction would develop there. Kasche requested him to send the facts to the Commandant of the southeastern district and remarked that undoubtedly these occurrences were connected with Chetniks of Pop Djuic who were leaving the front, presumably to return to Slovenia. Their movements could not be controlled by German military authorities. Kasche stated that he had reported previously on the case history of this Chetnik group.

Kasche also reported to the Poglavnik that he had been recalled to Berlin to make a full report and would leave by plane on 20 December to arrive in Berlin the following day. He was over turning all official matters to Embassy Councillor Schubert.

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2006